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Special Libraries. Efficiency Number. (Vol. 4, No. 5, May 1913). Indianapolis: The Special Libraries Association. 25 cents.

The May issue of *Special Libraries* devotes itself to the new efficiency movement in modern commerce and industry. It falls into two main divisions: (1) a discussion of the need of the modern business man or manufacturer for information both for himself and for his employees about his own business, and (2) a series of bibliographies of books, periodicals, and articles to supply the needed information.

In the first part Mr. St. Elmo Lewis, member of the Efficiency Society and author of *The New Gospel of Efficiency*, reviews the great progress already made in bringing the scientific attitude of mind to bear upon commercial and industrial problems. He finds that the meat of the matter is the turning of attention to value rather than to price. He says: "The 'system' man's mind was occupied with the past. He came soon to know what things cost him, but as to whether it was too much or too little, he knew nothing. . . . . He knew the price of his labor and of his materials, he did not know their value." He believes the efficiency idea is the product of the younger college-trained man, who, before he came to have any rule of thumb, had learned to question all empirical rules and who was on his guard against prejudice in favor of his own personal experience. Mr. Lewis suggests, as an aid to the business man who wishes to run his business efficiently, that he begin the collection of a reference library of select books, periodicals, and articles bearing directly on his type of business. He gives the plan of the special library now being collected by the firm of which he is advertising manager.

The second part of the issue is taken up with select lists of references on scientific management and efficiency. The lists are divided into the following groups: (1) General. In this group are listed those books and articles which have a general application to commercial and industrial problems. (2) Special Aspects. In this group are to be found references on special problems such as accounting, labor efficiency, motion study, and wages adjustment. (3) Special, including books, periodicals, and articles specially intended for particular industries and types of industry. It is astonishing to note the quantity of the literature of the subject when one also notes how recently the subject has been a subject at all. Practically all the books listed, save only a few on advertising have been brought out within the last three years, and fully two-thirds of them within a year. Among the articles in periodicals, four are listed for 1906, seven for 1907, thirty-seven for 1912, and thirteen for the first two months of 1913! Both the student of commerce and industry, and the business man who wishes to keep abreast with his times should find these book lists helpful.